

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05

SAM-01 /058 W

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P 211035Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2439

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0937

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: LIBYAN PRESS SILENCE ON SINAI NEGOTIATIONS

REF: CAIRO 8301

1. THE BAN ON ANY MENTION OF THE SINAI NEGOTIATIONS AND
PRESIDENT SADAT BY THE LIBYAN PRESS, WHICH TOOK EFFECT ABOUT
AUG 12, REMAINS IN FORCE THROUGH AUG 21.

2. SPECULATION HERE WE HAVE HEARD OFFERS THE FOLLOWING
EXPLANATIONS FOR THE ABRUPT SILENCE.

A) A PRO-EGYPTIAN FACTION IN THE LIBYAN ARMY, LED BY
LT. COL. KHARRUBI, HAS IMPOSED IT ON QADHAFI AS A CONDITION
FOR ITS COOPERATION IN CRUSHING LAST WEEK'S PLOT BY MUHAYSHI
AND HAWWADI.

B) QADHAFI HAS BOWED TO OUTSIDE ARAB PRESSURE, EITHER
FROM BOUMEDIENE OR AL-ASAD. HE TRAVELLED TO KAMPALA WITH
BOUMEDIENE, AND WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SPOKEN BY PHONE TO ASAD
AUG 11.

C) QADHAFI IS PREOCCUPIED WITH HIS INTERNAL PROBLEMS,
AND IS KEEPING SILENT IN THE HOPE THAT THE EGYPTIANS WILL
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NOT EXPLOIT THEM.

D) QADHAFI IS AFRAID OF AN EGYPTIAN MILITARY INTERVENTION
ON THE PRETEXT OF PROTECTING EGYPTIAN CITIZENS IN LIBYA.

3. A COMBINATION OF THESE FACTORS MAY ACCOUNT FOR THE BAN.
CERTAINLY IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT QADHAFI HAS SUDDENLY
DROPPED HIS OPPOSITION TO THE SETTLEMENT PROCESS.
STEIN

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Message Attributes

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